REMARKS

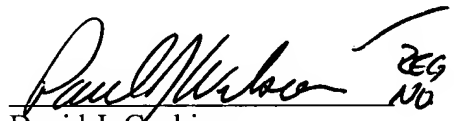
Applicants hereby elect claims 15-29 with traverse. Claims 15 and 17 have been amended and new claims 30 and 31 have been added.

In view of the amendments made to the claims, restriction is no longer proper amongst the claims.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 20, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

15. (Twice Amended) A method for testing the properties of ~~telephone lines comprising copper pairs~~transmission channels~~,~~ between a central office and a subscriber, characterized in that it comprises using the time domain reflectometry to test said properties.

17. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for testing the properties of ~~telephone lines comprising copper pairs~~transmission channels~~,~~ between a central office and a subscriber, characterized in that it comprises time domain reflectometry test circuit.

Claims 30-31 are added as new claims.

30. A method according to claim 15 wherein said transmission channels are telephone lines comprising copper pairs between a central office and a subscriber, characterized in that it comprises using the time domain reflectometry to test said properties.

31. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said transmission channels are telephone lines comprising copper pairs between a central office and a subscriber, characterized in that it comprises time domain reflectometry test circuit.